

P. L. Historical Society

Serving The Tri-Lakes Area Since 1956



Rocky Mountain Chautauqua Assembly Revival 2009

President Teddy Roosevelt cited the Chautauqua as **“The most American thing in America.”**

The Chautauqua Movement was the first mass educational and cultural movement in this Nation’s history. During the Chautauqua Movement (1874-1930), troupes of educators, speakers and entertainers traveled the country bringing educational, cultural and recreational programs to ordinary people in non-urban areas throughout America. The Circuit Chautauqua Assemblies visited more than 10,000 towns. In addition, over 400 locations in the country held an annual summer Chautauqua Assembly. These traveling Chautauqua Assemblies exposed people to prominent speakers, educators, artists and entertainers at a time when less than 2% of the adults held high school degrees. Nationwide

The Chautauqua Auditorium L, Octavia R, & Cottages Bottom



— an estimated 45 million Americans attended a Chautauqua. Chautauqua also provided training to thousands of teachers, furthering public education.

The first Chautauqua Movement in Colorado came to Palmer Lake in 1886. Located in Glen Park, remnants remain today from that time when the hillsides were covered with tents and small cabins. Octavia was the site of the kiosk and re-

— freshment stand. Nearby was the assembly hall which no longer stands.

The purpose of the 2009 Rocky Mountain Chautauqua Revival is a celebration of this important event in history. The weekend of August 7-9, 2009, the Palmer Lake Community will remember the Chautauqua Assembly of long ago by reliving a bit of history in the 1900-1910 eras. There will be entertainment, cultural events, an old-fashioned baseball game, an ice cream social, a nature hike, a history walk, dinner-theatre, a box lunch, Model A and T classic cars and much more. Chautauqua is **Iroquois for ‘gathering.’** So, mark your calendar and get ready for fun!

This is a community Initiative sponsored by Palmer Lake Historical Society.

In case you wanted to know:

- **Museum hours:** 10-2 PM Sat. and 1-4 PM Wed., June to Aug.
- PLHS President: Phyllis Bonser
- Vice-President: Al Walter
- Secretary: Ron Heard
- Treasurer: Victor Vaile
- Museum Director: Rogers Davis
- Board Members at Large:
 - Kim Braun
 - Bob Kirby
 - Mary Meyer
 - Hans Post
- **Mountain Lion:** “Old Disappearance”

Inside this issue:

What’s New at the Museum	2
A Message from the President & Upcoming Programs and Events	2
Preservation of Colorado Springs Streets and Railways	3
A Vintage Fashion Show	3
Brulé and AIRO an American Indian Rock Opera	3
Art and History at the new Monument Town Hall	4



One of Hanks’ “Tally Ho” Parties

"Coca-Cola"

The only way that I could figure they could improve upon Coca-Cola, one of **life's most delightful elixirs**, which studies prove will heal the sick and occasionally raise the dead, is to put rum or bourbon in it.

LEWIS GRIZZARD, *New York Times*, Apr. 26, 1985



What's New at the Museum?

By: Sharon Jarnagin

Do you know what is 123 years old and is still as popular as ever?

Hint: Remember the slogan **"It's the real thing?"**

That's right, it's Coca-Cola!

Coca-Cola was invented in 1886 as syrup. It was made with two ingredients: African kola nut and coca leaves, which contained traces of cocaine.

In 1916, the signature, contoured bottle was manufactured. In 1923 the first six packs were sold. By 1928, bottle sales surpassed fountain sales because of the six



packs and the metal top coolers. The 12 oz. aluminum cans were introduced to the public in 1960. A bit of Coca-Cola trivia: It would be green if coloring

wasn't added to it. When it first appeared on the market, Coca-Cola was originally billed as an "esteemed brain tonic & intellectual beverage."

This new exhibit runs through July and features original antique Coca-Cola items plus many collectibles. Come visit us and you will see that "Coke is it!"

If you would like to be a docent in the museum or help with any PLHS events, call Phyllis Bonser at 481-9245 or any member on the board.

A Message from the President

This has been a busy quarter for the Society. Our May **Brule' Concert was a huge success**, and we look forward to their return. Our current activities include placing historical plaques at the Crawford Memorial, the fountain at Palmer Lake, the Chapala Building, and the Bronze Relief at Monument Town Hall.

An agreement with the town of Palmer Lake and PLHS

has been reached on the care of the Crawford Memorial gardens and memorial. The town will oversee the gardens while PLHS will tend to the memorial. Plans are in effect to plant trees around the memorial and perhaps install a flag pole to draw attention to the area.

The Little Log Church booklet has been updated and **published for the church's 85th anniversary**. This was a joint effort between the

church and PLHS. Work continues on plans to expand the museum and to update and reprint the local history books.

We have enclosed an **"occasional paper"** by Mr. Dan Edwards as a benefit to our members. It is informative about the nature and variety of accommodations during the Chautauqua period.

Phyllis V. Bonser

PLHS Upcoming Events and Programs



All upcoming events held at the Palmer Lake Town Hall on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

All are welcomed free of charge. Doors open at 6:30 PM. The program begins at 7:00 PM. Refreshments are served.

July 16, 2009 7:00 PM "The Battle of Glorieta Pass"

A decisive Civil War battle some historians call the **"Gettysburg of the West."** Presented by Dave Hughes (Colonel, USA Ret.)

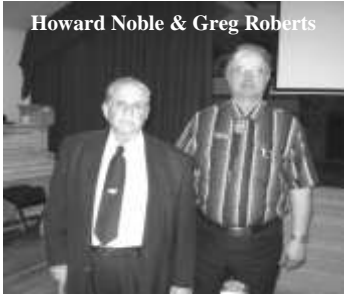
September 17, 2009 7:00 PM "High Drama in Colorado"
Colorado's Historic Theaters

Presented by: Beth Barnett

October 15, 2009 "Railroads & the Military"

The impact of the railroad on the military, past and present. Presented by: Paul Seeling, U.S. Air Force Academy

March: Preservation of Colorado Springs Street Railways



Howard Noble & Greg Roberts

Article paraphrased from **Bernard L. Minettie's** article to Our Community News.

H. Howard Noble, vice president and executive director of the Pikes Peak Historical Railway Foundation spoke to PLHS on March 10th. The twenty-six year old foundation is manned by an all-volunteer staff. The museum/depot functions as a restoration center for the Cumbres and Toltec narrow gauge railway system and other

organizations. A co-presenter with Noble, Gregory Roberts is a senior restoration specialist and is currently restoring Car 59 at the depot.

Noble outlined the history of the restoration project. On special occasions, restored cars run on a short track in Colorado Springs. However, great excitement centers

over plans for a new system that would extend from South Tejon in Colorado Springs to the University of Colorado in the vicinity of Austin Bluffs and Nevada.

A tour of the museum is a must with children.

April: Vintage Fashion Show

On April 16, the Palmer Lake Historical Society presented a **"Vintage Fashion Show"** coordinated by Mary Meyer of the PLHS & Lucretia Vaile Museum that featured garments worn by ladies from **the 1860's to the 1960's**.

As the items of clothing were modeled, Sally Green wrote in May 2, 2009 issue of Our **Community News: "Meyer** sprinkled in lively information about the fashion decades, calling attention to

garment details and the type of occasion for which they were worn, and the history of each decade influencing **women's fashion**. **Did you** know that it took two people to dress a proper Victorian lady, because her gown had so many hooks up the back? **The Gibson Girl of the early 1900's raised her hemline** to her ankle tops so she could more easily get in and out of the newfangled horse-less carriage. The well-dressed woman of the

1950's always wore coordinated hat, gloves and shoes."

Anna Gheen is on the left with Mary Meyer to her right.



Photos by: Virgil Watkins

May 22, 2009: Brulé and AIRO an American Indian Rock Opera

The PLHS in association with the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce hosted a special event fundraiser. The audience of over five-hundred enjoyed a very high energy performance at the new Palmer Ridge High School. This event was the first time the PLHS had endeavored to bring a professional ensemble to the Tri-Lakes Area.

PLHS Vice-President Al Walter and his wife Rhetta conceived the idea and worked tirelessly with the Chamber of Commerce to bring about a successful event, despite the rainy weather. It is expected that

Brulé will return for an encore performance next year.

Brulé has become one of the top-selling Native American recording artists with more than a million CDs sold worldwide.

Members of the Bearshart family, local Native American dancers, also performed at the event.



Palmer Lake Historical Society
PO Box 662
66 Lower Glenway
Palmer Lake, CO
80133-0662

Stamp



Serving The Tri-Lakes Area Since 1956

Visit Us At: <http://www.ci.palmer-lake.co.us/plhs/>

Art & History at the new Monument Town Hall

The Palmer Lake Historical Society has installed two pieces of art work at the new Monument Town Hall. The bronze bas-relief, designed and created by Ronny Walker, depicts the history of Monument. The bas-relief was funded solely by our PLHS members and is a permanent gift to the community. Do stop by the Monument Town Hall, proceed down the hall and see this

enduring tribute to the colorful history of Monument.

In addition, a diptych of the old general store in Monument, painted by Lindsay Ray and donated to PLHS by Susan Helmick and Donovan Anderson, is on loan to the Town Hall.

Also, other fine pieces of art from



Monument 1879

the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts and Tri-Lakes Views are on display, inside and

out, at the Town Hall.